

Appln. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: October 22, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a system for automatically generating and distributing information, comprising the steps of:
 - a) monitoring a document as it is processed by a user;
 - b) identifying a reference to a party in said document;
 - c) accessing a database that stores information about various users including weights assigned by the various users;
 - d) accessing a database of information relating to relationships between an enterprise and other parties wherein said information includes a value of said relationship to said enterprise, a quality of said relationship to said enterprise and the weights assigned by the various users; and
 - e) if a record relating to said party exists in said database, providing information relating to a relationship between said enterprise and said party to said user.
2. (Original) A method as described in claim 1 where said information is generated, at least in part, based upon survey responses by system users.
3. (Original) A method as described in claim 2 where said user is requested to respond to a survey when said information is provided and said user's response to said survey is used to update said information.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)

Appln. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: October 22, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2008

6. (Previously Presented) A method as described in claim 1 where said further information includes a weighted sum of ratings for a plurality of characteristics of said relationship.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as described in claim 1 where said further information is provided in graphical form.

8. (Original) A method as described in claim 1 where said information is generated, at least in part, based upon survey responses by other enterprises.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as described in claim 8 where said other enterprise responses are collected and distributed by a third party in a confidential and secure manner to protect critical confidential information of said other enterprises.

10. (Original) A method as described in claim 1 including the further step of formulating an inquiry to an information source in response to a request from said user.

11. (Original) A method as described in claim 10 where the scope of said inquiry, and to which information source, or sources, said inquiry is to be sent, are determined based on the nature and importance of the matter to which said inquiry relates.

12. (Previously Presented) A system for automatically generating and distributing information, comprising:

- a) a computer for processing documents;
- b) a database system comprising:
 - b1) a database of information relating to relationships between an enterprise and other parties; and
 - b2) a server for controlling access to said database and for communicating with said computer; where
- c) said computer is programmed to:
 - c1) monitor a document as it is processed by a user on said computer;
 - c2) identify a reference to a party in said document; and
 - c3) send information identifying said party to said server; and where
- d) said server is programmed to:

Appln. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: October 22, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2008

- d1) receive said identifying information;
- d2) accessing a database that stores information about various users, including weights to be assigned by various users;
- d3) access said database for information relating to a relationship between said enterprise and said party that includes a value of said relationship to said enterprise, a quality of said relationship to said enterprise and the weights assigned by various users; and
- d4) if a record relating to said party exists in said database, send said information relating to a relationship between said enterprise and said party to said computer.

13. (Original) A system as described in claim 12 where said information is generated, at least in part, based upon survey responses by system users.

14. (Original) A system as described in claim 13 where said server is further programmed to send a request to said computer for said user to respond to a survey when said information is provided and to update said information with new information reflecting said user's response to said survey.

15. (Original) A system as described in claim 12 where said information sent relates to a value of said relationship to said enterprise.

16. (Original) A system as described in claim 15 where said sent information includes further information relating to a quality of said relationship.

17. (Original) A system as described in claim 16 where said further information includes a weighted sum of ratings for a plurality of characteristics of said relationship.

18. (Original) A system as described in claim 16 where said further information is provided in graphical form.

19. (Original) A system as described in claim 12 where said information is generated, at least in part, based upon survey responses by other enterprises.

Appn. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: October 22, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2008

20. (Previously Presented) A system as described in claim 19 where said other enterprise responses are collected and distributed by a third party in a confidential and secure manner to protect critical confidential information of said other enterprises.

21. (Original) A system as described in claim 12 where said computer is further programmed to receive a request from said user for information from other information sources and said server is further programmed to formulate an inquiry to an information source in response to said request.

22. (Original) A system as described in claim 21 where the scope of said inquiry, and to which information source, or sources, said inquiry is to be sent, are determined based on the nature and importance of the matter to which said inquiry relates.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the weights assigned by the various users are weighted sums of the various users' responses to statements pertaining to various characteristics.

Appn. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: October 22, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2008

32. (Previously Presented) The method claimed in claim 31, wherein the characteristics include commitment, trust and satisfaction.

33. (Previously Presented) The system claimed in claim 12, wherein the weights assigned by the various users are weighted sums of the users responses to statements, pertaining to various characteristics.

34. (Previously Presented) The system claimed in claim 33, wherein the characteristics include commitment, trust and satisfaction.